Media Advisory

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May 31, 2011

Massachusetts Defense Force Activation Ceremony Today

MILFORD, Mass. – Lt. Governor Timothy P. Murray will join Brig. Gen. Paul G. Smith, Assistant Adjutant General for the Massachusetts National Guard in presiding over the activation ceremony of the Massachusetts State Defense Force during a ceremony scheduled for Today, May 31, 2011 at 3:30 p.m. The event will be conducted at the Massachusetts National Guard Museum and Archives, 44 Salisbury Street, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Brig. Gen. Gary Pappas (Ret.) will assume command of the MSDF during this ceremony. The MSDF will serve as a credible, relevant, reliable, and honorable force to support the National Guard in the completion of its missions. The MSDF is the militia force authorized by state law to augment the Massachusetts National Guard and will carry on a proud tradition of service to the Commonwealth that dates back to the Civil War.

Members of the MSDF will provide professional services, as well as, force augmentation for civil emergency relief exercises and operations. The MSDF will focus recruiting on those with key professional competencies in order to provide the best possible assistance to the Commonwealth during homeland security and emergency management operations. The targeted membership demographic includes former/retired military operations and logistics professionals as well as skilled medical professionals, legal professionals, and ordained, ecclesiastically endorsed clergypersons.

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EVENT: Massachusetts Defense Force Activation Ceremony
PLACE: Massachusetts National Guard Museum and Archives, 44 Salisbury Street, Worcester
DATE: Today, May 31, 2011 at 3:30 p.m.